

Perhaps Alan Bray's greatest works, however, lie not within his art but within his soul. You see, Alan comes from Sangerville, a small town in central Maine where the people do not always enjoy many of the every-day advantages as those of us who have the opportunity to live in more populous and prosperous areas. Closing Mills, unemployment and lower wages place a strain on families and communities, but Alan Bray is a community's strength.

Alan has given his time and his talents to the local college, where he passes on his vast knowledge of art and artistic methods to students eager to absorb it, but who would otherwise be without the opportunity to learn from such life experiences. He has lead the effort to revive the local Grange, once a meeting place for farmers in the surrounding communities to discuss means to deliver their crops to the cities and ensure their earning a fair wage for their long, hard hours of work. Today, the Sangerville Grange is a center of culture and draws musical talent, poets, speakers and others with so much to offer and to teach, much as the town of Collingswood in my district has the Scottish Rite. Like the Rite, the Grange has become widely known for drawing some of the finest talent and sharpest minds to deliver music, art and culture to the small community of good, descent people who so deserve the wonderful offerings a civilized society has to give. It is a result of the vision, character and hard work of Alan Bray.

Alan is now being recognized as a recipient of the Jefferson Award, a prestigious award that honors community service and cooperative spirit, and he is here in Washington today to humbly accept that award for his good works, his good deeds, but mainly, for the good his good deeds, but mainly for the good content of his character. Alan Bray embodies the spirit of returning to one's community a hundred fold that which you have gained from it, and of unpaid public service that is an essential part of the spirit of America. He is a ray of hope to some who are in need of hope; a beacon of light to others who struggle to find their way, and a modern visionary of what otherwise ordinary people can do to make extraordinary things come to be. Congratulations, Alan. Your community, your state, and indeed your nation, thank you.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF PAXON HIGH SCHOOL IN JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2003

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the school administrators, teachers, and students at Paxon High School in Jacksonville, Florida for their outstanding achievement in providing, guiding, and demonstrating a quality education.

Paxon High School was recently highlighted by Newsweek magazine (The Best 100 High Schools in America, May 26, 2003), as the third best school in the nation, as measured by the Challenge Index. This index takes the number of Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate tests taken by all of

the students at a school in 2002 and divides them by the number of graduating seniors.

The editors of Newsweek said they used participation in the Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate tests as benchmarks because "these tests are more likely to stretch young minds—which should be the fundamental purpose of education."

Paxon High School is clearly providing the curricula, support, and leadership in learning that is so very important to our young people.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in applauding Paxon High School and all of those schools that strive to prepare their students for higher education and thusly, a higher quality of life. Moreover, I would like to commend the school administrators, superintendents, teachers, and all of the students who have committed themselves to a quality education. As John F. Kennedy once stated, leadership and learning are indispensable to each other.

It is my privilege to recognize Paxon High School for its outstanding achievements.

THE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICANS RESIDENT OVERSEAS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2003

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the contributions made by Association of Americans Resident Overseas (AARO) in defending and promoting, the interests of overseas American before the U.S. Congress and presidential administrations during its thirty-year history.

I want to specifically commend AARO for promoting improvements in American nationality laws which would have taken the citizenship of children of one American parent away from them, for seeking tax equity for Americans working abroad, for working to reconcile social security laws by international agreement for US citizens working abroad, and for securing voting rights for US citizens abroad in Federal elections.

On June 20, 2003, AARO's will celebrate its Thirtieth Birthday.

Mr. Speaker, the leaders of AARO throughout the years have worked hard to represent and advocate for Americans living overseas. As such, this organization is worthy of receiving our recognition today.

TRIBUTE TO MR. ANDY BROWN OF HILLSDALE, MICHIGAN, EXCEPTIONAL TEACHER

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2003

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, education is the key for our Nation's future prosperity and security. The formidable responsibility of molding and inspiring young minds to the avenues of hope, opportunity and achievement rests partly in the hands of our teachers. Today I would like to recognize a teacher from Hillsdale, Michigan who most influenced and motivated exceptional students in academics

and leadership who were winners of the LeGrand Smith scholarship.

Mr. Andy Brown teaches Advanced Reading, Writing and Research at Camden-Frontier High School in Camden, Michigan. He is credited for instilling in students an enthusiasm for the subject and for life itself. In one student's own words, "Mr. Brown has taught me the English language and how to convey my thoughts in an organized, precise way. He encouraged me to go after my dreams and accomplish my goals." The respect and gratitude of his students speaks well of Mr. Brown's ability to challenge young minds to stretch the mental muscles and strive to achieve the best that is in them.

Andy Brown's excellence in teaching challenges and inspires students to move beyond the teen-age tendency toward surface study and encourage deeper thought and connections to the real world. No profession is more important in its influence and daily interaction with the future leaders of our community and our country, and Mr. Andy Brown's impact on his students is certainly deserving of recognition.

On behalf of the Congress of the United States of America, I am proud to extend our highest praise to Mr. Andy Brown as a master teacher. We thank him for his continuing dedication to teaching and his willingness and ability to challenge and inspire students for leadership and success.

HONORING KATHERINE DUNHAM ON THE OCCASION OF HER 94TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2003

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Katherine Dunham on the occasion of her 94th birthday.

Born in Joliet, Illinois, on June 22, 1910, Katherine Dunham became interested in dance at an early age. While a student at the University of Chicago, she formed a dance group that performed in concert at the Chicago World's Fair in 1934 and with the Chicago Civic Opera in 1935-36.

With a bachelor's degree in anthropology, she soon undertook field studies in the Caribbean and in Brazil. By the time she received her M.A. from the University of Chicago, she had acquired a vast knowledge of the dances and rituals of the black peoples of tropical America. (She later took a Ph.D. in anthropology.)

In 1938, she joined the Federal Theatre Project in Chicago and composed a ballet, *L'Ag'Ya*, based on Caribbean dance. In 1940, she formed an all-black company, which began touring extensively by 1943. *Tropics* (choreographed 1937) and *Le Jazz Hot* (1938) were among the earliest of many works based on her research.

Katherine Dunham is noted for her innovative interpretations of primitive, ritualistic, and ethnic dances and her tracing the roots of black culture. Many of her students, trained in her studios in Chicago and New York City, have become prominent in the field of modern dance. She also choreographed for Broadway

stage productions and opera—including Aida (1963) for the New York Metropolitan Opera. She also choreographed and starred in dance sequences in such films as *Carnival of Rhythm* (1942), *Stormy Weather* (1943), and *Casbah* (1947).

Dunham also conducted special projects for Chicago black high school students. She served as the artistic and technical director (1966–67) to the president of Senegal and artist-in-residence, and later professor, at Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville, and director of Southern Illinois' Performing Arts Training Centre and Dynamic Museum in East St. Louis, Ill.

Dunham's writings, sometimes published under the pseudonym Kaye Dunn, include Katherine Dunham's Journey to Accompong (1946), an account of her anthropological studies in Jamaica; *A Touch of Innocence* (1959), an autobiography; and *Island Possessed* (1969), as well as several articles for popular and scholarly journals.

Except for a brief appearance in 1965, Dunham has not performed regularly since 1962 and has concentrated on her choreography. One of her major works was the choreographing and directing of Scott Joplin's opera *Treemonisha* in 1972. When she dissolved her company in 1965 to become advisor to the cultural ministry of Senegal she returned to the United States in 1967.

She left the conventional dance world of New York that year to live and work in East St. Louis at an inner-city branch of the Southern Illinois University, running a school attached to the University and working with neighborhood and youth groups.

The living Dunham tradition has persisted. She is considered a woman far ahead of her time. She considers her technique "a way of life." The classes at her Manhattan school—attended by many artists, including Marlon Brando and Eartha Kitt, during the 1940s and the 1950s, were noted for their liberating influence.

Her master of body movement was considered "phenomenal." She was hailed for her smooth and fluent choreography and dominated a stage with what has been described as "an unmitigating radiant force providing beauty with a feminine touch full of variety and nuance." Otherwise known as the Dunham Technique, which is still practiced today.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Katherine Dunham on the occasion of her 94th birthday. Katherine's lifetime of experiences and her contribution to the world of dance is an invaluable resource to not only the people of East St. Louis but to the world.

RELATING TO CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENTS TO H.R. 1308, TAX RELIEF, SIMPLIFICATION, AND EQUITY ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2003

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in reluctant opposition to the rule providing for consideration of H.R. 1308, the Relief for Working Families Tax Act. Today, we have the oppor-

tunity to help 6.5 million working families with 11.9 million children while maintaining fiscal responsibility. However, the Majority does not wish to do that. Rather, they would prefer to pass an \$82 billion tax package without any provisions to offset the cost. The Senate overwhelmingly passed a \$9.8 billion tax package that would immediately benefit our children and not increase the deficit; we must do the same.

The federal deficit has now exceeded \$400 billion for 2003, a new record, and is approaching \$500 billion for 2004. Yet, the Majority wants to borrow another \$82 billion. In a time of exploding budget deficits as far as the eye can see, we cannot pass a plan that will further compromise our economy. It is imperative that we put money back in the hands of working Americans to create jobs and build a strong future. The bill before us today, however, only serves to further weaken our economy and burden our children.

The child tax credit legislation passed by the Senate on June 5th, 2003 extends relief to families making between \$10,500 and \$26,625, who were left out of the Majority's irresponsible tax package we recently considered. Just examine the facts: one in six families would gain from the child credit refund increase; in my home state of Wisconsin alone, 11 percent of families would benefit. In thirteen States, at least 20 percent of families would be helped. In addition, the legislation passed by the Senate would provide benefits for the children of the brave men and women of our Armed Services. However, the House Majority is offering a partisan obstruction impairing our ability to help these children, by adding \$70 billion worth of additional tax cuts.

In conclusion, I urge my colleagues to oppose this rule and bring up the legislation the Senate passed so we can get it to the President's desk by this weekend. We must not let the Majority solve a \$3.5 billion dilemma with an even greater \$82 billion dilemma. It is evident that this plan creates more harm than good; it not only increases the budget deficit of today, but also increases the debt of the future. Thus, for a better today and a brighter tomorrow, I firmly oppose this bill and encourage my colleagues to oppose it with me.

A TRIBUTE TO AL DAVIS

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, last month a trusted and respected employee of the Ways and Means Committee named Al Davis died of complications resulting from a tragic traffic accident and I want to offer my sincere condolences to his family and loved ones. Al was a kind, caring, and generous man who was dedicated to the public good—a rare commodity in this body today.

As many of my colleagues have said on many occasions, Al Davis was a tremendous asset to the Democratic Members of the Ways and Means Committee. Moreover, many of my colleagues who are not on the Ways and Means Committee benefited from his expertise—even if they didn't know it as his handiwork. This is because Al was the person be-

hind the summaries and one-pagers that often helped members understand very complex tax and budget legislation. On numerous occasions I needed to consult with Al in order to produce documents that would help me understand arcane budget principles and make sense of Federal budget projections.

As members of the Committee knew, Al was a dedicated public servant who will not soon be forgotten. The Ways and Means Committee and this Congress as a whole will suffer without his presence. Al Davis will truly be missed by all of us.

TRIBUTE TO JODY OWENS OF BATTLE CREEK, MICHIGAN, EXCEPTIONAL TEACHER

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2003

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, education is the key for our Nation's future prosperity and security. The formidable responsibility of molding and inspiring young minds to the avenues of hope, opportunity and achievement rests partly in the hands of our teachers. Today I would like to recognize a teacher from Battle Creek, Michigan that most influenced and motivated exceptional students in academics and leadership that were winners of the LeGrand Smith scholarship.

Mrs. Jody Owens teaches English at Athens High School in Athens, Michigan. She is credited for instilling in students an enthusiasm for the subject and for life itself. In one student's own words, "Mrs. Owens works to bring out the best in everyone. She also has the kindest heart I have ever known." The respect and gratitude of her students speaks well of Mrs. Owen's ability to challenge young minds to stretch the mental muscles and strive to achieve the best that is in them.

Mrs. Owen's excellence in teaching challenges and inspires students to move beyond the teen-age tendency toward surface study and encourage deeper thought and connections to the real world. No profession is more important in its influence and daily interaction with the future leaders of our community and our country, and Jody Owen's impact on her students is certainly deserving of recognition.

On behalf of the Congress of the United States of America, I am proud to extend our highest praise to Mrs. Jody Owens as a master teacher. We thank her for her continuing dedication to teaching and her willingness and ability to challenge and inspire students for leadership and success.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING MARTHA MOORE

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2003

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, Martha Moore has served as a State central committee member in the Republican Party since 1950; and

Whereas, Martha Moore is the longest serving state central committee member in Republican Party history; and